

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 and 21-36 are pending in the application. Claims 1-19 and 21-36 are rejected. Claim 20 was previously cancelled. Claims 1, 22, 33, 34, 35 and 36 are amended. Further consideration is requested in view of the new claim amendments and the accompanying remarks.

The Examiner's Interview Summary of the telephone interview that took place on October 5, 2006 is noted and acknowledged as written.

Claims 1-6, 11-13, 15-18, 21, 22, and 25-34 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Wolff et al, US Patent No. 4,486,826.

Claims 7-10 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff et al in view of Cepulis, US Patent No. 6,055,596.

Claims 19 and 35 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff et al in view of Pizzica, US Patent No. 5,652,754.

Claims 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff et al in view of Bershteyn et al, US Patent No. 5,678,028.

Claim 36 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wolff et al in view of Merrill et al, US Patent No. 4,942,552.

The Examiner has noted that Wolff et al, which forms the basis of all of the above rejections, "don't disclose a means for debugging the circuit by placing request/response packets on the bus for analysis".

All of the above rejections are respectfully traversed as the Applicant has made additional amendments to claims 1, 22, and 33-36 in conformance with the Examiner's helpful observation regarding the teachings of Wolff et al. All of the independent claims 1, 22, and 33-36 are amended to now recite a "means for debugging the circuit by placing request/response packets on the interconnect for analysis", or a similar debugging step not taught in Wolff et al,

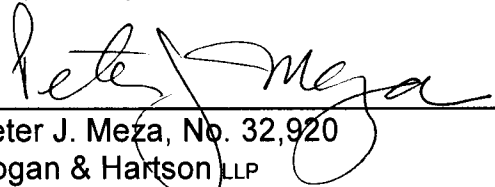
nor suggested by the combination of Wolff et al and the combination of any of the other references.

In view of the claim amendments and remarks, all of the pending claims are now believed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No additional fee is believed due for this submittal. However, any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

12/27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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